

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a human patient suffering from inoperable tumors comprising:

- 1) administering to said patient biodegradable microspheres
suspended in a sterile solution containing between 1.0 and 1.5%
by weight/volume of a viscosity modifier; between 0.5 and 1.5%
of a surfactant; and between 3.5 and 4.5% of an isotonicity
agent,

said microspheres releasing 5-FU, by stereotactic injection directly into the tumor, into the peritumoral area, or at the same time into both the tumor and the peritumoral area.

29. (Currently Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 28, wherein the suspension contains 3 ml of the sterile solution, and between 700 to 800 mg of biodegradable microspheres.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 28, wherein the viscosity modifier is sodium carboxymethylcellulose, the surfactant is polysorbate, and the isotonicity agent is mannitol.
31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29, wherein the viscosity modifier is sodium carboxymethylcellulose, the surfactant is polysorbate, and the isotonicity agent is mannitol.
32. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, wherein the amount of 5-FU is between 50 and 200 mg.
33. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, wherein the microspheres are administered by one or more repeated stereotactic injections.
34. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, wherein the biodegradable microspheres are coated with a polymer that delays the release of 5-FU and maintains in the parenchymal space a therapeutically-effective concentration of 5-FU for a period of at least four weeks.

35. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, wherein the inoperable tumors are deep tumors or tumors located in functional zones.
36. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 35, wherein the inoperable tumors are brain tumors selected from the group consisting of glioblastomas, tumors of oto-rhinolaryngologic sphere, rectal tumors, osseous, hepatic, or brain metastasis, and non malignant cystic tumors.
37. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 36, wherein the inoperable tumors are craniopharyngiomas.
38. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 36, wherein the tumor is a brain tumor.
39. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 38, wherein the brain tumor is selected from the group consisting of glioblastomas, metastasis, and non malignant cystic tumors.
40. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, wherein the 5-FU further comprises a neuroprotective compound.
41. (Currently Amended) A method [of treatment] according to claim 28, further comprising administering radiotherapy to said patient.